Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 200301 ORIGIN SS-07

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O KRLONGETEIG APPROVED BY S/S-O JETHYDEN

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FOLLOWING REPEAT PANAMA 5985 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PANCANAL SOUTHCOM 20 AUG 77

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 5985

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (THURMOND), PBOR, PN, PQ

SUBJECT: CODEL THURMOND

SENATORS STROM THURMOND (R- S.C.), JESSEE HELMS (R-N.C.) AND ORRIN HATCH (R-UTAH) VISITED THE ISTHMUS FOR APPROXIMATELY 24 HOURS AUGUST 18-19. A NUMBER OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS, INCLUDING ALL THREE MAJOR TV NETWORKS, CAME TO PANAMA FOR THE OCCASION: BUT THEY MADE LITTLE SPLASH.

THE SENATORS, ALL ANNOUNCED OPPONENTS OF THE TREATY, MADE THE USUAL ROUNDS OF THE SOUTHERN COMMAND AND THE PANAMA CANAL COMPANY. AT A MEETING WITH ZONE LABOR AND CIVIC LEADERS, THEY HEARD A VARIETY OF COMPLAINTS -- MOSTLY BITTER -- AGAINST THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TREATY.

THEIR ONLY CALL ON PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS WAS ON PRESIDENT LAKAS AND MINISTER BARLETTA WHO MADE A VERY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON THEM. THIS MAY HAVE AFFECTED THEIR PERFORMANCE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEIR TALK WITH LAKAS. THE SENATORS, THOUGH THEY SAID THEY HAD NOT CHANGED THEIR MINDS

ABOUT THE TREATY, WERE MODERATE AND COURTEOUS IN THEIR REMARKS; AND THE CONFERENCE WAS SO BRIEF AS TO BE ALMOST CURT. THE SENATORS DID NOT ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO ATTEND AN ANTI-TREATY RALLY IN THE ZONE THE EVENING OF AUGUST 19. (SEPTEL)

JORDEN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER".

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Message Attributes

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Subject: CODEL THURMOND SENATORS STROM THURMOND (R- S.C.), JESSEE HELMS (R-N.C.) AND ORRIN HATCH (R-UTAH) VISITED THE

ISTHMUS FOR APPRO
TAGS: OVIP, PBOR, OREP, PN, PQ, (THURMOND, STROM), (HELMS, JESSEE), (HATCH, ORRIN)

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